

# Morbidity and Mortality

Weekly  
Report



U. S. Department of  
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

Public Health Service

NATIONAL OFFICE OF VITAL STATISTICS

August 26, 1955

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## Provisional Information on Selected Notifiable Diseases in the United States and on Deaths in Selected Cities for Week Ended August 20, 1955

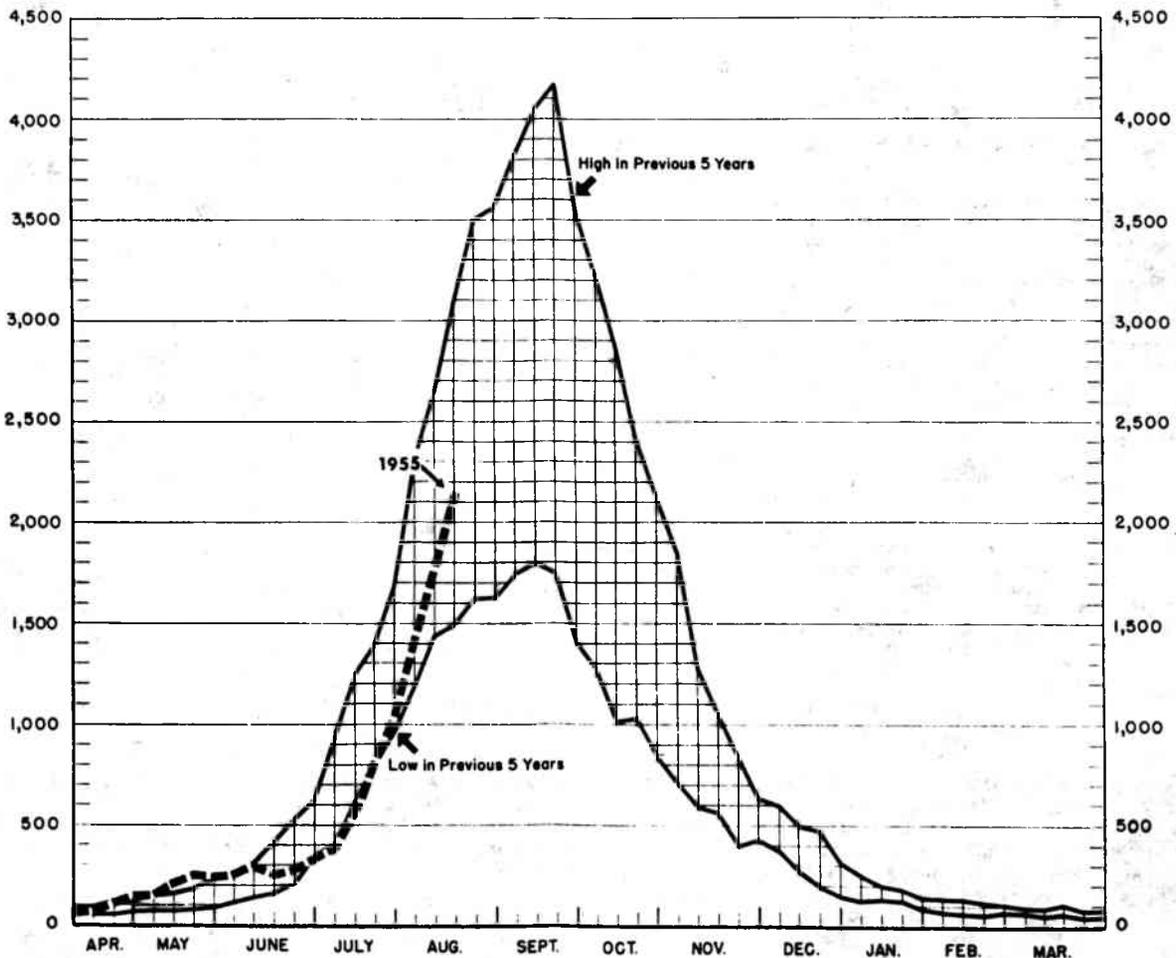
Incidence of poliomyelitis for the current week, 2,138 cases, is 20 percent greater than for the previous week when 1,786 (corrected total) cases were reported. The current week total is only about 3 percent below the number for the same week last year.

Although there was an increase in each of the geographic divisions as compared with the previous week, the percentage increases varied from about 6 to 38 percent. The largest percentage increase occurred in the Middle Atlantic Division, prin-

cipally in New York State. The increase in the New England Division amounted to only 17 percent, which would seem to indicate a leveling off of incidence in parts of that area.

Massachusetts reported 448 cases for the current week, 101 in Boston. This suggests that the peak has been reached in Boston since 114 cases were reported for the week ended August 13. The State Department of Public Health reports that there was some further peripheral spread outside of Boston, but this occurred in communities already involved. Incidence on Cape

POLIOMYELITIS CASES REPORTED BY WEEK: UNITED STATES



Cod is slowly increasing, but no cases have occurred on the islands (Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket). In New Hampshire, there was an increase of cases from 24 to 41, principally in the southeastern and central parts of the State, more than three-fourths of the total being reported from 5 counties. The number of cases more than doubled in Rhode Island. So far, the northern part of the State has borne the brunt of the attack. Incidence has not been abnormally high in Providence in contrast to some other cities in the area. Vermont had an increase of cases, 20 being reported as compared with 4 the previous week.

The increase of poliomyelitis cases in Illinois over the previous week amounted to 96 percent. Eighty-seven of the State's total of 147 cases were reported in Cook County and 47 of these were in Chicago. Three deaths were also reported in Cook County. Only one other county, Du Page, reported more than 10 cases. These figures cannot be interpreted as indicating epidemic prevalence in the areas mentioned. Wisconsin re-

ported a moderate increase in incidence of the disease. The exact distribution of these cases is not known. Previous reports indicate that Dane County was experiencing an increase in incidence, as well as the 6-county area mentioned in last week's report.

The Poliomyelitis Surveillance Unit, Public Health Service Communicable Disease Center, reports that a total of 167 paralytic and 162 nonparalytic cases of poliomyelitis in persons who had received vaccine have been accepted. The dates of onsets of illness among newly accepted cases ranged from May 24 to August 9. No conclusions can be drawn from these case reports with respect to the efficacy of the vaccine. Complete information on the occurrence of the disease among vaccinated and nonvaccinated children of comparable age is necessary for such an evaluation and this information will not be available for some time.

Continued on page 8

Table 1. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES  
(Numbers after diseases are category numbers of the Sixth Revision of the International Lists, 1948)

DISEASE	33d WEEK			CUMULATIVE NUMBER						Approximate seasonal low point
	Ended Aug. 20, 1955	Ended Aug. 21, 1954	Median 1950-54	First 33 weeks			Since seasonal low week			
				1955	1954	Median 1950-54	1954-55	1953-54	Median 1949-50 to 1953-54	
Anthrax-----062	-	-	-	20	14	22	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Botulism-----049.1	-	-	---	6	8	---	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Brucellosis (undulant fever)-----044	32	28	---	817	1,066	---	---	---	---	---
Diphtheria-----055	32	24	36	<sup>2</sup> 868	1,063	1,652	<sup>2</sup> 159	191	224	July 1
Encephalitis, infectious-----082	35	48	28	908	1,017	685	377	461	283	June 1
Hepatitis, infectious, and serum-----092,N998.5 pt.	448	805	---	<sup>3</sup> 22,994	36,328	---	---	---	---	---
Malaria-----110-117	11	27	---	<sup>4</sup> 306	436	---	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Measles-----085	1,371	1,862	1,087	516,754	626,268	466,769	572,504	662,360	496,159	Sept. 1
Meningococcal infections-----057	48	48	58	2,476	2,964	2,964	3,568	4,286	4,286	Sept. 1
Poliomyelitis-----080	2,138	2,204	2,204	<sup>5</sup> 11,862	14,899	14,899	<sup>5</sup> 10,799	13,346	13,346	Apr. 1
Psittacosis-----096	6	7	---	194	434	---	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Rabies in man-----094	-	-	-	4	4	5	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Rocky Mountain spotted fever-----104A	5	12	19	204	220	248	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat-----050,051	1,314	1,353	810	109,452	111,859	79,190	4,195	4,118	2,917	Aug. 1
Smallpox-----084	-	-	-	-	-	10	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Trichinosis-----128	1	2	---	181	173	---	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Typhoid fever-----040	5	9	15	365	396	432	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Typhus fever, endemic-----101	58	74	74	1,045	1,345	1,392	738	939	1,024	Apr. 1
Whooping cough-----056	1	6	---	87	128	---	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Rabies in animals-----	1,103	1,122	1,052	<sup>7</sup> 46,007	36,610	36,610	<sup>7</sup> 63,289	46,367	46,874	Oct. 1
	78	79	114	<sup>8</sup> 3,583	4,819	4,819	<sup>8</sup> 4,936	6,603	---	Oct. 1

<sup>1</sup>Frequencies are too small.

<sup>2</sup>Addition: South Carolina, week ended August 6, 4 cases.

<sup>3</sup>Addition: Utah, week ended August 13, 2 cases.

<sup>4</sup>Deduction: Texas, week ended August 13, 5 cases.

<sup>5</sup>Deduction: Kentucky, week ended August 6, 1 case.

<sup>6</sup>California, Illinois, Montana, and Texas, 1 case each; and Tennessee, 2 cases.

<sup>7</sup>Addition: Montana, week ended August 13, 7 cases.

<sup>8</sup>Additions: Delaware and Indiana, week ended August 13, 3 and 1 cases, respectively. Deduction: Missouri, week ended July 23, 1 case.

#### SOURCE AND NATURE OF MORBIDITY DATA

These provisional data are based on reports to the Public Health Service from health departments of each State and Territory and of one possession. They give the total number of cases of certain communicable diseases reported during the week usually ended the preceding Saturday. Cases of anthrax, botulism, psittacosis, rabies in man, and smallpox are not shown

in table 2, but a footnote to table 1 shows the States making the reports. In addition, when diseases of rare occurrence (cholera, dengue, plague, relapsing fever—louse borne, typhus fever—epidemic, and yellow fever) are reported, they will be noted at the end of table 1.

Symbols.—1 dash [-]: no cases reported; 3 dashes [---]: data not available.

# Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report

Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED AUGUST 21, 1954 AND AUGUST 20, 1955

(By place of occurrence. Numbers under diseases are category numbers of the Sixth Revision of the International Lists, 1948)

AREA	BRUCELLOSIS (UNDULANT FEVER) (044)		DIPHTHERIA (055)		ENCEPHALITIS, INFECTIOUS (082)		HEPATITIS, INFECTIOUS, AND SERUM (092,N998.5 pt.)		MALARIA (110-117)			
									Civilian <sup>1</sup>		Military	
	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954
CONT. UNITED STATES-----	32	28	32	24	35	48	448	805	6	11	5	16
NEW ENGLAND-----	-	-	-	1	2	3	33	67	-	1	-	-
Maine-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	16	-	1	-	-
New Hampshire-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	12	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts-----	-	-	-	1	2	1	6	19	-	-	-	-
Rhode Island-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	6	-	-	-	-
Connecticut-----	-	-	-	-	-	2	13	14	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	-	1	-	2	10	11	108	193	-	1	-	2
New York-----	-	1	-	1	7	11	56	132	-	-	-	1
New Jersey-----	-	-	-	-	3	-	6	10	-	1	-	1
Pennsylvania-----	-	-	-	1	-	-	46	51	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	15	4	1	-	7	6	45	66	-	-	-	1
Ohio-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	13	-	-	-	-
Indiana-----	-	1	1	-	6	-	8	3	-	-	-	-
Illinois-----	11	1	-	-	1	1	11	27	-	-	-	1
Michigan-----	1	-	-	-	-	5	5	18	-	-	-	-
Wisconsin-----	3	2	-	-	-	-	12	5	-	-	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	10	15	-	-	4	4	46	88	-	-	-	-
Minnesota-----	1	3	-	-	-	-	23	32	-	-	-	-
Iowa-----	6	8	-	-	-	-	4	41	-	-	-	-
Missouri-----	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	7	-	-	-	-
North Dakota-----	-	-	-	-	1	-	16	4	-	-	-	-
South Dakota-----	2	3	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Kansas-----	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	3	-	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	2	3	19	4	2	4	54	68	1	3	-	9
Delaware-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Virginia-----	-	1	-	-	1	-	34	33	-	-	-	1
West Virginia-----	1	-	1	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-
North Carolina-----	-	-	2	2	-	-	8	12	-	-	-	7
South Carolina-----	-	1	12	-	-	1	1	5	-	3	-	-
Georgia-----	-	1	3	1	-	1	2	2	-	-	-	1
Florida-----	1	-	1	1	1	-	4	7	1	-	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	-	1	8	12	2	1	22	140	-	1	-	-
Kentucky-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	81	-	-	-	-
Tennessee-----	-	1	2	1	2	1	7	28	-	-	-	-
Alabama-----	-	-	5	10	-	-	2	6	-	1	-	-
Mississippi-----	-	-	1	1	-	-	7	25	-	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	3	4	4	5	1	4	38	60	2	5	1	-
Arkansas-----	1	1	-	1	-	-	2	2	-	-	1	-
Louisiana-----	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	14	-	-	-	-
Oklahoma-----	-	2	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-
Texas-----	2	1	3	4	1	2	32	43	2	5	-	-
MOUNTAIN-----	-	-	-	-	3	2	34	28	1	-	-	-
Montana-----	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	2	-	-	-	-
Idaho-----	-	-	-	-	1	-	9	8	-	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Colorado-----	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	3	-	-	-	-
New Mexico-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	-
Arizona-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	11	1	-	-	-
Utah-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nevada-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	2	-	-	-	4	13	68	95	2	-	4	4
Washington-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	14	11	-	-	-	2
Oregon-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	39	1	-	-	-
California-----	1	-	-	-	4	13	40	45	1	-	4	2
Alaska-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	2	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	---	-	---	6	---	-	---	---	---	2	---	-

<sup>1</sup>Includes cases not specified as civilian or military.

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Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED AUGUST 21, 1954 AND AUGUST 20, 1955—Continued

(By place of occurrence. Numbers under diseases are category numbers of the Sixth Revision of the International Lists, 1948)

AREA	MEASLES (085)		MENINGO- COCCAL INFECTIONS (057)		POLIOMYELITIS (080)						ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER (104A)	
					Total <sup>2</sup>		Paralytic (080.0,080.1)		Nonparalytic (080.2)			
	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954
CONT. UNITED STATES-----	1,371	1,862	48	48	2,138	2,204	637	810	924	747	5	12
NEW ENGLAND-----	51	243	3	-	611	112	228	35	212	59	-	-
Maine-----	1	17	1	-	13	20	6	10	7	10	-	-
New Hampshire-----	-	10	-	-	41	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	16	28	-	-	20	4	7	1	13	3	-	-
Massachusetts-----	28	134	2	-	448	67	204	21	167	40	-	-
Rhode Island-----	-	26	-	-	34	4	3	-	-	4	-	-
Connecticut-----	6	28	-	-	55	8	8	3	25	2	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	230	485	6	8	275	222	53	67	79	51	-	-
New York-----	151	269	1	5	169	103	53	39	79	33	-	-
New Jersey-----	33	124	2	-	55	47	-	28	-	18	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	46	92	3	3	51	72	-	-	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	317	319	12	12	518	528	137	203	238	130	1	3
Ohio-----	76	62	1	7	91	156	11	28	17	18	1	1
Indiana-----	7	14	5	1	26	46	10	24	9	6	-	-
Illinois-----	64	62	5	2	147	132	47	75	67	35	-	2
Michigan-----	49	91	-	2	94	159	18	70	62	68	-	-
Wisconsin-----	121	90	1	-	160	35	51	6	83	3	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	31	57	1	2	196	263	43	95	132	80	-	1
Minnesota-----	7	15	-	-	62	53	14	24	47	15	-	-
Iowa-----	8	22	-	2	70	72	7	31	58	25	-	1
Missouri-----	7	5	-	-	13	40	7	17	4	13	-	-
North Dakota-----	7	9	-	-	5	11	1	-	1	5	-	-
South Dakota-----	1	2	1	-	3	7	-	-	2	4	-	-
Nebraska-----	1	1	-	-	23	36	7	17	14	11	-	-
Kansas-----	-	3	-	-	20	44	7	6	6	7	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	145	111	6	5	159	235	44	93	93	86	2	4
Delaware-----	-	2	-	-	4	1	2	1	2	-	-	-
Maryland-----	16	10	-	-	23	9	11	3	12	6	1	-
District of Columbia-----	-	2	1	-	2	6	1	3	1	2	-	-
Virginia-----	58	33	1	1	27	30	6	15	21	12	-	2
West Virginia-----	41	23	-	-	9	16	2	9	5	5	-	-
North Carolina-----	15	15	1	-	43	57	9	24	28	23	1	2
South Carolina-----	11	1	1	2	21	14	5	4	9	7	-	-
Georgia-----	-	3	2	2	4	46	3	20	-	9	-	-
Florida-----	4	22	-	-	26	56	5	14	15	22	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	30	36	9	3	79	111	26	49	40	30	-	2
Kentucky-----	6	6	5	-	36	47	13	25	21	17	-	1
Tennessee-----	13	11	-	2	20	22	5	4	7	7	-	-
Alabama-----	7	16	4	1	13	17	3	11	9	4	-	-
Mississippi-----	4	3	-	-	10	25	5	9	3	2	-	1
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	151	227	4	11	146	277	41	87	55	109	-	-
Arkansas-----	2	1	-	2	10	17	6	13	4	3	-	-
Louisiana-----	-	-	-	2	16	31	8	18	8	13	-	-
Oklahoma-----	6	7	-	1	22	30	2	5	3	6	-	-
Texas-----	143	219	4	6	98	199	25	51	40	87	-	-
MOUNTAIN-----	148	68	3	3	52	97	22	15	18	19	2	2
Montana-----	62	1	-	1	9	6	4	1	2	4	-	-
Idaho-----	-	5	1	1	6	7	3	-	1	-	-	1
Wyoming-----	1	1	-	-	3	15	-	2	1	1	-	-
Colorado-----	25	9	-	1	18	23	10	8	6	9	-	-
New Mexico-----	22	19	-	-	5	8	3	1	2	1	-	-
Arizona-----	19	30	1	-	10	7	2	3	6	4	1	-
Utah-----	19	3	1	-	-	22	-	-	-	-	1	1
Nevada-----	-	-	-	-	1	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	268	316	4	4	102	359	43	166	57	183	-	-
Washington-----	40	34	-	-	17	16	10	6	5	6	-	-
Oregon-----	49	23	-	-	14	18	7	10	7	3	-	-
California-----	179	259	4	4	71	325	26	150	45	174	-	-
Alaska-----	1	3	-	1	8	19	6	5	-	14	-	-
Hawaii-----	14	11	-	-	6	3	5	-	1	3	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	---	76	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

<sup>2</sup>Includes cases not specified by type, category number (080.3).

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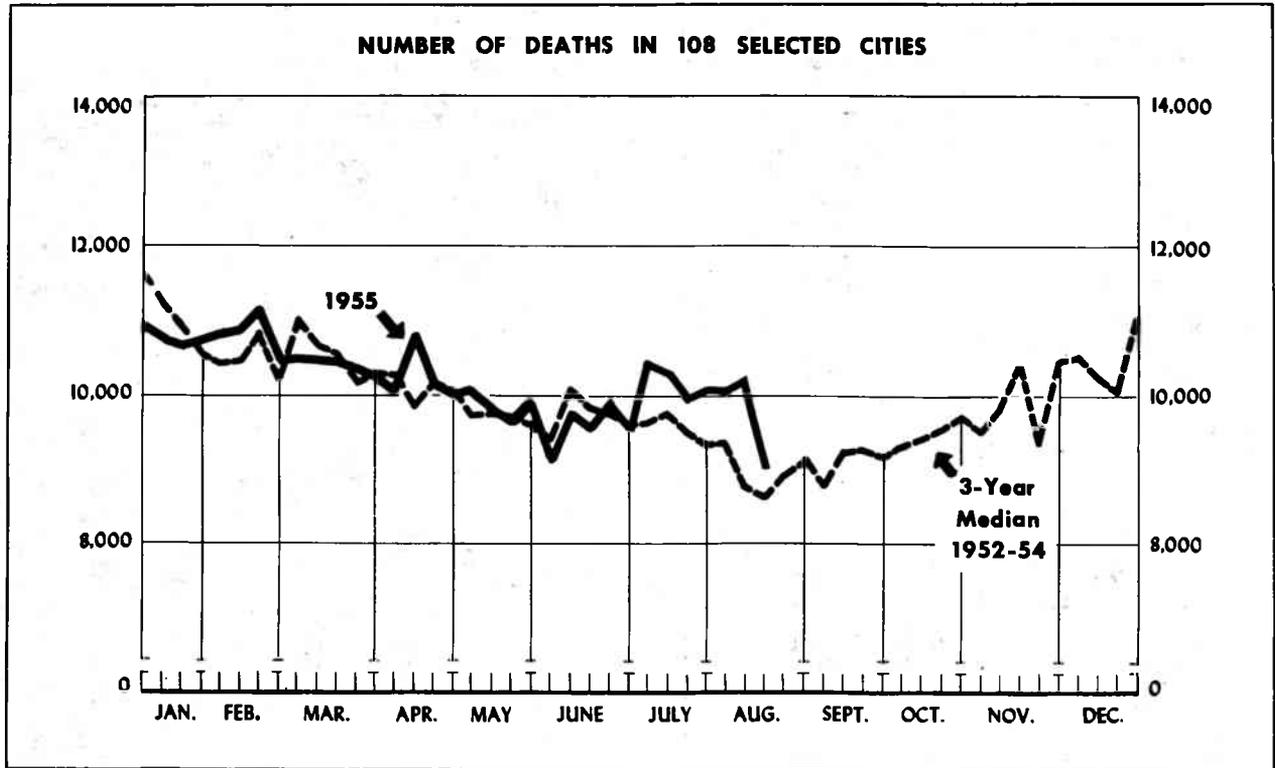
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**Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED AUGUST 21, 1954 AND AUGUST 20, 1955—Continued**

(By place of occurrence. Numbers under diseases are category numbers of the Sixth Revision of the International Lists, 1948)

AREA	SCARLET FEVER AND STREPTOCOCCAL SORE THROAT (050,051)		TRICHI- NIASIS (128)	TULAREMIA (059)		TYPHOID FEVER (040)		TYPHUS FEVER, ENDEMIC (101)	WHOOPING COUGH (056)		RABIES IN ANIMALS	
	1955	1954	1955	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1955	1954	1955	1954
CONT. UNITED STATES-----	1,314	1,353	1	5	9	58	74	1	1,103	1,122	78	79
NEW ENGLAND-----	64	24	-	1	-	-	4	-	25	99	-	-
Maine-----	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	7	-	-
New Hampshire-----	38	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	5	-	-
Vermont-----	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-
Massachusetts-----	14	13	-	1	-	-	2	-	11	34	-	-
Rhode Island-----	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	-
Connecticut-----	10	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	34	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	30	45	1	1	-	3	9	-	82	185	16	6
New York-----	26	34	1	1	-	-	5	-	36	95	16	6
New Jersey-----	4	6	-	-	-	2	1	-	19	37	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	-	5	-	-	-	1	3	-	27	53	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	89	103	-	-	1	5	2	-	242	279	9	10
Ohio-----	8	9	-	-	-	1	1	-	40	40	6	2
Indiana-----	10	40	-	-	-	-	2	-	31	30	2	5
Illinois-----	8	28	-	1	1	-	-	-	43	51	-	1
Michigan-----	26	18	-	-	-	1	1	-	91	122	1	-
Wisconsin-----	37	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	37	36	-	2
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	35	17	-	-	-	2	5	-	27	39	9	16
Minnesota-----	11	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	19	1	3
Iowa-----	5	2	-	-	-	-	3	-	8	4	4	7
Missouri-----	6	1	-	-	-	2	1	-	3	10	3	3
North Dakota-----	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	6	-	1
South Dakota-----	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Kansas-----	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	165	93	-	-	-	13	13	-	136	158	17	18
Delaware-----	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Maryland-----	17	5	-	-	-	3	-	-	17	22	-	-
District of Columbia-----	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	1	-	-
Virginia-----	103	68	-	-	-	3	4	-	39	43	1	2
West Virginia-----	20	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	13	35	1	5
North Carolina-----	8	7	-	-	-	1	1	-	28	38	2	2
South Carolina-----	6	6	-	-	-	2	4	-	11	10	10	6
Georgia-----	21	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	9	5	2	3
Florida-----	9	3	-	-	-	1	1	-	15	4	1	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	45	27	-	1	3	17	11	-	205	55	10	5
Kentucky-----	32	12	-	-	-	5	4	-	127	25	2	3
Tennessee-----	3	9	-	-	1	10	2	-	31	13	5	1
Alabama-----	6	4	-	-	-	1	2	-	47	11	3	1
Mississippi-----	4	2	-	1	2	1	3	-	-	6	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	557	689	-	-	3	14	24	1	214	121	11	23
Arkansas-----	66	48	-	-	-	5	5	-	17	8	3	3
Louisiana-----	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	7	2	-	-
Oklahoma-----	10	8	-	-	1	1	4	-	3	4	-	2
Texas-----	479	633	-	-	2	8	14	1	187	107	8	18
MOUNTAIN-----	230	282	-	2	2	1	4	-	68	41	-	-
Montana-----	3	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-
Idaho-----	5	1	-	-	-	1	2	-	2	12	-	-
Wyoming-----	1	4	-	1	1	-	-	-	8	1	-	-
Colorado-----	42	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	-
New Mexico-----	30	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	12	-	-	-
Arizona-----	140	227	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	14	-	-
Utah-----	9	38	-	-	1	-	-	-	19	14	-	-
Nevada-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	79	73	-	-	-	3	2	-	104	145	6	1
Washington-----	7	9	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	13	-	-
Oregon-----	33	8	-	-	-	1	-	-	10	11	-	-
California-----	39	56	-	-	-	2	1	-	89	121	6	1
Alaska-----	4	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	19	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	---	-	---	---	---	---	-	---	---	12	---	-

## Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report



The chart shows the number of deaths reported for 108 major cities of the United States by week for the current year, and, for comparison, the median of the number of deaths reported for the corresponding weeks of the 3 previous calendar years. (The median is the central one of the three values arranged in order of magnitude.) If a report is not received from a city in time to be included in the total for the current week, an estimate is made to maintain comparability for graphic presentation.

The figures reported represent the number of death certificates received in the vital statistics offices during the week indicated, for deaths occurring in that city. Figures compiled in this way, by week of receipt, usually approximate closely the number of deaths occurring during the week. However, differences are to be expected because of variations in the interval between

death and receipt of the certificate.

While week-to-week changes in the total number of deaths reported for all major cities generally represent a change in mortality conditions, this may not be true for variations in weekly figures for each city. For example, in a city with a weekly average of 50 deaths, the number of deaths occurring in a week may be expected to vary by chance alone from  $36$  to  $64$  ( $d \pm 2\sqrt{d}$ , where  $d$  represents the average number of deaths per week).

The number of deaths in cities of the same size may also differ because of variations in the age, race, and sex composition of their populations, and because some cities are hospital centers serving the surrounding areas. Changes from year to year in the number of deaths may be due in part to population increases or decreases.

Table 3. DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES BY GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION

(By place of occurrence, and week of filing certificate. Exclusive of fetal deaths)

AREA	35d week ended Aug. 20, 1955	32d week ended Aug. 13, 1955	35d week median 1952-54	Percent change, median to current week	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 53 WEEKS		
					1955	1954	Percent change
TOTAL: 108 REPORTING CITIES-----	8,761	9,38	8,376	+4.6	527,049	517,710	+2.9
New England----- (14 cities)	595	649	586	+1.5	22,874	21,595	+5.9
Middle Atlantic----- (17 cities)	2,565	2,772	2,526	+1.5	99,887	95,857	+4.2
East North Central----- (17 cities)	2,069	2,342	1,844	+12.2	72,751	70,502	+3.2
West North Central----- (9 cities)	666	802	631	+5.5	23,948	24,889	-3.8
South Atlantic----- (9 cities)	713	811	681	+4.7	25,475	25,075	+1.6
East South Central----- (7 cities)	363	379	305	+19.0	12,091	11,686	+3.5
West South Central----- (10 cities)	540	652	574	-5.9	20,559	20,057	+2.5
Mountain----- (8 cities)	197	198	211	-6.6	7,896	7,558	+4.5
Pacific----- (12 cities)	1,053	1,233	1,067	-1.3	41,568	40,491	+2.7

# Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report

**Table 4. DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES FOR WEEK ENDED AUGUST 20, 1955**

(By place of occurrence, and week of filing certificate. Exclusive of fetal deaths)

CITY	33d week ended Aug. 20, 1955	32d week ended Aug. 13, 1955	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 33 WEEKS		CITY	33d week ended Aug. 20, 1955	32d week ended Aug. 13, 1955	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 33 WEEKS	
			1955	1954				1955	1954
<b>NEW ENGLAND</b>					<b>WEST NORTH CENTRAL—Con.</b>				
Boston-----	194	216	7,807	7,235	St. Louis-----	175	254	7,219	7,791
Bridgeport-----	34	32	1,255	1,160	St. Paul-----	58	59	2,138	2,115
Cambridge-----	22	28	952	913	Wichita-----	33	31	1,251	1,464
Fall River-----	22	29	919	920	<b>SOUTH ATLANTIC</b>				
Hartford-----	37	46	1,520	1,487	Atlanta-----	104	112	3,407	3,474
Lowell-----	26	24	841	896	Baltimore-----	214	217	7,480	7,113
Lynn-----	15	24	762	712	Charlotte-----	17	25	920	966
New Bedford-----	26	20	814	739	Jacksonville-----	(53)	(38)	(1,551)	(1,657)
New Haven-----	30	40	1,460	1,414	Miami-----	71	72	1,803	2,191
Providence-----	56	59	2,121	1,949	Norfolk-----	29	33	1,048	970
Somerville-----	9	13	511	461	Richmond-----	66	55	2,134	2,082
Springfield, Mass.-----	43	40	1,363	1,281	Savannah-----	(27)	(33)	(918)	(943)
Waterbury-----	24	27	835	794	Tampa-----	55	46	1,835	1,761
Worcester-----	57	51	1,714	1,634	Washington, D. C.-----	134	215	5,671	5,450
<b>MIDDLE ATLANTIC</b>					Wilmington, Del.-----	23	36	1,177	1,088
Albany-----	40	52	1,588	1,479	<b>EAST SOUTH CENTRAL</b>				
Allentown-----	(26)	(29)	(1,208)	(1,105)	Birmingham-----	69	91	2,533	2,461
Buffalo-----	156	92	4,505	4,470	Chattanooga-----	42	34	1,455	1,448
Camden-----	30	39	1,237	1,214	Knoxville-----	50	28	1,119	1,109
Elizabeth-----	26	29	912	939	Louisville-----	(101)	---	---	(3,543)
Erie-----	36	35	1,167	1,130	Memphis-----	95	99	3,256	3,158
Jersey City-----	67	66	2,326	2,256	Mobile-----	23	29	958	1,045
Newark, N. J.-----	85	88	3,369	3,200	Montgomery-----	21	18	852	837
New York City-----	1,300	1,380	52,190	50,330	Nashville-----	63	80	1,918	1,628
Paterson-----	30	42	1,267	1,259	<b>WEST SOUTH CENTRAL</b>				
Philadelphia-----	401	448	16,212	15,338	Austin-----	(26)	---	---	(853)
Pittsburgh-----	155	164	5,883	5,321	Baton Rouge-----	25	20	710	704
Reading-----	---	---	---	(671)	Corpus Christi-----	13	14	580	561
Rochester, N. Y.-----	69	122	3,084	2,982	Dallas-----	---	(92)	---	(3,258)
Schenectady-----	26	20	762	804	El Paso-----	38	22	958	895
Scranton-----	---	(31)	---	(1,122)	Fort Worth-----	54	60	1,796	1,821
Syracuse-----	55	52	1,833	1,771	Houston-----	109	124	4,117	3,981
Trenton-----	39	61	1,595	1,477	Little Rock-----	30	60	1,474	1,377
Utica-----	29	46	998	1,000	New Orleans-----	141	164	4,940	4,895
Yonkers-----	21	36	959	887	Oklahoma City-----	39	64	1,876	1,974
<b>EAST NORTH CENTRAL</b>					San Antonio-----	65	92	2,845	2,572
Akron-----	47	55	1,739	1,818	Shreveport-----	26	32	1,263	1,277
Canton-----	21	25	882	935	Tulsa-----	---	(50)	---	(1,550)
Chicago-----	692	766	24,058	23,715	<b>MOUNTAIN</b>				
Cincinnati-----	137	191	4,948	4,619	Albuquerque-----	26	16	758	864
Cleveland-----	204	216	6,522	6,546	Colorado Springs-----	11	13	443	385
Columbus-----	82	94	3,541	3,312	Denver-----	86	78	3,573	3,355
Dayton-----	57	77	2,168	2,084	Ogden-----	11	6	359	359
Detroit-----	299	344	10,838	10,179	Phoenix-----	20	24	790	702
Evansville-----	---	(37)	---	(994)	Pueblo-----	9	12	424	439
Flint-----	29	48	1,215	1,232	Salt Lake City-----	31	44	1,397	1,321
Fort Wayne-----	47	33	1,145	861	Tucson-----	3	5	152	133
Gary-----	(27)	(42)	(915)	(819)	<b>PACIFIC</b>				
Grand Rapids-----	39	40	1,394	1,262	Berkeley-----	13	14	588	586
Indianapolis-----	105	127	3,629	3,668	Long Beach-----	39	50	1,610	1,598
Milwaukee-----	130	131	4,136	4,026	Los Angeles-----	419	460	14,965	14,449
Peoria-----	22	24	955	1,002	Oakland-----	75	90	2,864	3,027
South Bend-----	18	20	803	746	Pasadena-----	26	58	1,188	1,101
Toledo-----	72	101	3,065	2,930	Portland, Oreg.-----	66	71	3,139	3,248
Youngstown-----	68	50	1,713	1,567	Sacramento-----	43	47	1,615	1,519
<b>WEST NORTH CENTRAL</b>					San Diego-----	50	72	2,424	2,365
Des Moines-----	52	50	1,687	1,660	San Francisco-----	154	190	8,142	6,005
Duluth-----	30	21	834	886	Seattle-----	90	114	4,260	4,000
Kansas City, Kans.-----	33	28	1,167	1,125	Spokane-----	49	38	1,521	1,450
Kansas City, Mo.-----	110	134	3,635	4,052	Tacoma-----	29	29	1,252	1,143
Minneapolis-----	105	148	3,864	3,751	Honolulu-----	(29)	(27)	(1,184)	(1,123)
Omaha-----	70	77	2,153	2,045					

Symbols.—parentheses ( ): data not included in table 3; 3 dashes --- : data not available.

Excess mortality

As seen in the chart on page 6, the number of deaths in the major cities dropped this week from the high level of the past 6 weeks. However, the number is still in excess of the median for the week by about 5 percent. (See table 3.) Cities in 2 divisions reported deaths considerably in excess of the median—in the East North Central by 12 percent and in the East South Central by 19 percent.

## EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS

Brill's disease (typhus fever)

Dr. A. C. Hollister, California Department of Public Health, gives information on 2 cases of Brill's disease which occurred earlier this year. Both were in white females who had been in concentration camps in Germany. One patient gave a history of typhus fever in a camp 5 years ago. The other was ill with "Typhus" and has been in this country only 6 months. Laboratory tests showed Weil-Felix reactions of 4+ in titers of 1:20 and 1:80, respectively, for the patients. Complement fixation with endemic typhus antigen was positive for each patient. No antigens were available to distinguish between epidemic and endemic typhus antibodies. In one instance, Mr. David B. Lackman, senior scientist, stated that the comparatively low *Proteus* OX<sub>19</sub> titer in the presence of such a high titer of typhus complement fixing antibodies suggests Brill's disease.

Diphtheria

Dr. W. H. Y. Smith, Alabama Department of Public Health, gives information on an outbreak of diphtheria in Russell County and the surrounding area. Twenty-six cases have been reported in the county since the first of the year. Investigation of this outbreak is now in progress. (Of the 32 cases reported this week, 12 were in South Carolina and 5 were in Alabama.)

Anthrax in animals

According to the monthly report from the Department of Agriculture for July, a total of 22 outbreaks of anthrax in animals was reported in 9 States. As a result, 52 cattle and 1 hog were lost. Infected soil was suspected to be the source of 18 outbreaks, but the source was not determined for the remaining 4.

Psittacosis

The California Department of Public Health reports a case of psittacosis in a person who was exposed to 4 psittacine birds. The patient became dizzy, followed by a very high fever and a fainting spell. The diagnosis was confirmed by the complement fixation test. No tests were made on the birds.

Dr. R. H. Hutcheson, Tennessee Department of Public Health, reports 2 cases of psittacosis in members of a family who purchased a parakeet from a local store. Two children, aged 7 and 10, developed virus pneumonia which was typical of psittacosis. The parakeet was obtained for mouse inoculation but no evidence of psittacosis has yet developed. The bird was from a store where infected birds were found in 1954. The present stock as well as those in 1954 were obtained from a company in Missouri.

Encephalitis

The California Department of Public Health reports that no cases of St. Louis or western equine types of infection have been found this year. During the first 2 weeks of August 1954, 3 St. Louis and 1 western equine types of infection were reported. Since January 1, 1955, a total of 217 cases of acute encephalitis has been reported, but most of these are believed to be post infections following measles (64) and mumps (73). Of 594 pools of mosquitoes submitted during May, June, and July, western equine virus has been present in 19. However, laboratory tests are not yet complete for more than 100 pools. During the same 3-month period in 1954, 111 western equine and 25 St. Louis isolations were made from 572 pools of mosquitoes. Notifications of 12 cases (2 suspect) of encephalomyelitis in horses have been reported to the State Department of Agriculture since the first of the year.

Shigellosis

The California Department of Public Health reports an outbreak of shigellosis among 73 families (352 people) in a small town. Seventy-two cases occurred in 28 of the families scattered throughout the community. Of about 200 specimens collected, 16 yielded *Shigella flexner* 2a. An investigation revealed that sanitary facilities were inadequate in the majority of homes, only 16 of the 73 had complete facilities. Some had cold water faucets inside and some had them outside the house. Many families had community toilet facilities. The outbreak did not originate from a single or common source such as milk, water, or food. The original source of infection was not determined, but after introduction into the community, it was undoubtedly spread by person-to-person contact.

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